

In the claims:

All of the claims pending for examination are presented below. Claims 1, 9, 15 and 19 are amended in this response.

1. (Previously presented) A software application tangibly embodied on a computer-readable medium for populating and submitting interactive forms by proxy, comprising:
 - a function for finding and capturing data about a site associated with the form and about the form associated with the site;
 - a function for writing an executable instruction order containing data specific to the site, the associated form, and a requesting user;
 - a function for navigating to the site and submitting data to a host sponsoring the site using the form associated with the site;
 - a function for returning and recording a portion of the form-submitted data accepted by the host for subsequent use in gaining access to the site;
 - a function for returning and recording data that is the result of the form submission; and
 - a function for user notification of data that is the result of the form submission and registration attempt;
characterized in that the instruction order contains all of the required instruction data for navigating to and registering the user to the site, including authentication data for secure login, if required, and further characterized in that the user notification is sent to the user by the software application and includes registration status and authentication data accepted by the hosted site, and summarized information pertinent to the user, including links to or information from alternate sites not solicited by, or registered to by the user.
2. (Original) The software application of claim 1 wherein the site is an interactive information-page located on a data-packet-network.

3. (Original) The software application of claim 2 wherein the site is an electronic WEB page and the data-packet-network is the Internet network.
4. (Original) The software application of claim 2 wherein the form is an interactive registration form contained within the site.
5. (Original) The software application of claim 4 wherein the host is a company providing a service available through the site and accessible through the form contained in the site.
6. (Original) The software application of claim 3 wherein all of the software functions are resident in a single server-node on the Internet and are executed from the single server-node.
7. (Original) The software application of claim 3 wherein certain software functions are distributed over a plurality of server nodes on the Internet and are executed from those server nodes.
8. (Previously presented) The software application of claim 3 wherein the instruction order is written in the form of eXtensible mark-up language.
9. (Previously presented) A hardware-software system for configuring and executing an instruction order for populating and submitting an interactive form to a host and returning data from the host comprising;
 - a portal server running configuration software for interfacing with a user and for accepting data input in the form of an order request and configuration data;
 - a generation server running order-writing software for generating the instruction order according to a job request initiated by the portal server;
 - a navigation server running form population software for executing the instruction order received from the generation server according to instruction and data contained therein; and

a data repository accessible to the servers for recording, storing and serving data, such that a user connected to the portal server and utilizing the configuration software may obtain data about a site and about an associated interactive form, the data ultimately made available along with user data to the generation server which writes the instruction order for execution by the navigation server, and wherein accepted form-submitted data is returned by the navigation server to the data repository and recorded for subsequent access to the site;

characterized in that the instruction order contains all of the required instruction data for navigating to and registering the user to the site, including authentication data for secure login if required, and further characterized in that data specific to the site, that is a result of the form submission, is notified to the user by the software portion of the system, including registration status and user authentication data accepted by the hosted site, and summarized information pertinent to the user, including links to or information from alternate sites not solicited by, or registered to by the user.

10. (Original) The hardware-software system of claim 9 wherein the host is a company maintaining an interactive information page located on a data-packet-network.

11. (Original) The hardware-software system of claim 10 wherein the interactive information page is an electronic WEB page available on the Internet.

12. (Original) The hardware-software system of claim 11 wherein the form is an interactive registration form provided in the electronic WEB page.

13. (Previously presented) The hardware-software system of claim 12 wherein the instruction order is written in eXtensible mark-up language.

14. (Original) The hardware-software system of claim 10 wherein a separate and dedicated data network inter-connects the server-nodes for communication.

15. (Previously presented) A method for populating and submitting an interactive form by proxy comprising the steps of;

- (a) obtaining data specific to a form, a site, and a requesting user;
- (b) writing an instruction order for navigating to the site for the purpose of populating and submitting the form to a host associated with the site; and
- (c) executing the instruction order including a sub-execution for obtaining data from the site after successful form submission to the host sponsoring the site;

wherein the instruction order contains all of the required instruction data for navigating to and registering a user to the site, including authentication data for secure login if required, and data specific to the site, that is a result of the form submission, is notified to the user by software, including registration status and user authentication data accepted by the hosted site, and summarized information pertinent to the user, including links to or information from alternate sites not solicited by, or registered to by the user.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein in step (a), the site is an electronic information page hosted on the Internet and the form is an electronic form located within the information page.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 15 wherein in step (b), the instruction order is written in eXtensible mark-up language.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously presented) A software application tangibly embodied on a computer readable medium for populating and submitting interactive forms by proxy, comprising;

- a function for finding and capturing data about a site associated with the form and about the form associated with the site;
- a function for writing an instruction order containing data specific to the site, the associated form, and a requesting user;
- a function for navigating to the site and submitting data to a host sponsoring the

site using the form associated with the site;

a function for returning and recording a portion of the form-submitted data accepted by the host for subsequent use in gaining access to the site;

a function for returning and recording data that is the result of the submission; and

a function for providing user notification of data that is the result of the form submission and registration attempt;

characterized in that the instruction order contains all of the required instruction data for navigating to and registering a user to the site, including authentication data for secure login, if required, and further characterized in that the user notification is sent to the user by the software application and includes registration status and authentication data accepted by the hosted site, and summarized information pertinent to the user, including links to or information from alternate sites not solicited by, or registered to by the user.